

of peace officers ever killed in a single incident in the history of this country.

In 2002, over 152 law enforcement officers died while serving in the line of duty, well below the decade-long average of 165 deaths annually, and a major drop from 2001 when a total of 237 officers were killed. A number of factors contributed to this reduction including better equipment and the increased use of bullet-resistant vests, improved training, longer prison terms for violent offenders, and advanced emergency medical care. And, in total, more than 16,700 men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice.

National Peace Officers Memorial Day will provide the people of the United States with the opportunity to honor that extraordinary service and sacrifice. More than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington to join with the families of their fallen comrades who, by their last full measure of devotion to their responsibilities and the right and security of their fellow citizens, have rendered a dedicated service to our nation. I look forward to passage of this important resolution, a fitting tribute for this special and solemn occasion.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement related to this matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 75) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 75

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 700,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas more than 145 peace officers across the Nation were killed in the line of duty during 2002, well below the decade-long average of 165 deaths annually, and a major drop from 2001 when 230 officers were killed, including 72 officers in the September 11th terrorist attacks;

Whereas a number of factors contributed to this reduction in deaths, including better equipment and the increased use of bullet-resistant vests, improved training, longer prison terms for violent offenders, and advanced emergency medical care;

Whereas every year, 1 out of every 9 peace officers is assaulted, 1 out of every 25 peace officers is injured, and 1 out of every 4,400 peace officers is killed in the line of duty somewhere in America every other day; and

Whereas on May 15, 2003, more than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C. to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2003, as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

AUTHORIZATION FOR COMMITTEE TO FILE

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the Senate's adjournment, the Commerce Committee have from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on Friday, May 2, to file S. 824, the FAA reauthorization bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Would the distinguished majority whip yield?

Mr. McCONNELL. I yield.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have completed a number of unanimous consent requests this evening. A number of them—about 10 in number—deal with various positions that have been confirmed by the Senate this evening. These we read off by virtue of numbers. We do this almost every night, but I think sometimes we fail to realize these are real people and they are more than just numbers. The people on this list that we have read off today, they will have celebrations tonight. These are extremely important days in the life of every one of these people whose names we have read off today.

I think it does us good to once in a while just pause and recognize that the things we do here deal with more than just numbers. I ask we all once in a while stop and join in the celebration of these victories that these people have.

It is difficult, with the present situation—present situation? I think it has been going on for 20 years, how difficult it is to get nominations that the President sends to us, Democrat or Republican. The process is not very good.

We are now into the second year of this administration and we are just getting approved people he submitted earlier—some of whom he didn't submit earlier—just because the process is so slow. I hope someday a bipartisan commission or some organization can be set up so we can do this separate and apart from the situation that involves the judiciary. But just on nominations that come from the President, we need a system that works much better, more quickly than what we have.

I don't want to prolong the point other than to say congratulations to all these people who have been approved tonight.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, let me say to my friend, the assistant Democratic leader, his points are well made both on the congratulations that are certainly due these individuals who have been confirmed tonight and on the need to improve the process by which we get individuals confirmed here in the Senate. I must say, without the able and effective assistance of the

assistant Democratic leader, we would not have been able to clear some of these nominations tonight. I thank him for his perseverance in making that possible.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 5, 2003

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until noon, Monday, May 5. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period of morning business until 12:45, with the time equally divided between the majority leader and Senator DORGAN or their designees, provided that at 12:45 the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Executive Calendar No. 34, the nomination of Deborah Cook to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit as provided under the previous order.

I further ask unanimous consent that upon the completion of the vote on the Cook nomination, the Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Miguel Estrada, with the remaining time until 6 p.m. equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, provided further that at 6 p.m. the Senate proceed to a cloture vote on the Estrada nomination.

Mr. REID. No objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, on Monday the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 12:45. Following morning business, the Senate will begin consideration of the Cook nomination to the Sixth Circuit. Under the agreement entered into earlier today, there will be up to 4 hours of debate on the nomination prior to a vote on confirmation. Therefore, the first vote on Monday will occur at 4:45 p.m.

Upon the disposition of the Cook nomination, the Senate will debate the nomination of Miguel Estrada until 6 p.m. At 6 p.m., the Senate will conduct its fifth cloture vote on the Estrada nomination.

In addition to judicial nominations, the Senate may proceed to any of the following items next week: The NATO expansion bill, the energy bill, the bio-shield legislation, the State Department authorization bill, the FISA legislation, and any other items that can be cleared for floor action. Therefore, I encourage our colleagues to prepare for a very busy week, with numerous roll-call votes occurring throughout next week.